

Remarks

In the Notice of Allowability mailed October 10, 2007, the Examiner indicated that, by an examiner's amendment, claims 16-20 have been canceled and, further:

"[i]n view of the allowability of linking claims 1 and 9, claims 5-8 and 12-15, previously withdrawn from consideration as a result of a restriction requirement, requires all the limitations of an allowable claim. Pursuant to the procedures set forth in MPEP 5 82 1.04(a), the restriction requirement between inventions I, II and III, as set forth in the Office action mailed on 05/04/2005, is hereby withdrawn and claims 5-8 and 12-15 are hereby rejoined and fully examined for patentability under 37 CFR 1.104]."

In light of the present limitations of each of independent linking claims 1 and 9, Applicants have accordingly made minor corrections to rejoined dependent claims 5, 6, 8, 12, 13, and 15 that were previously considered as withdrawn. Additionally, Applicants have corrected minor typographical errors in both of claims 1 and 9.

Applicants believe that these amendments do not constitute any new matter. Applicants respectfully request consideration and entry of this amendment, despite that the application has been allowed, since the requested amendment essentially embodies the correction of formal matters in a claim without changing the scope thereof.

If there are any questions or comments regarding this Response, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned as indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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